

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A golf tee marker [(1)] comprising a body [(3)] surmounting a ground engaging portion and having in a top surface thereof a well [(4)] for receiving therein a ground engaging portion of another marker [(1)] for stacking markers [(1)] in a column, the well [(4)] having a drain hole [(5)] to avoid accumulation of liquid therein.
2. (Currently amended) A golf tee marker [(1)] according to claim 1, wherein ground engaging portion is at least one spike [(2)].
3. (Currently amended) A golf tee marker [(1)] according to claim 1, wherein the well [(4)] has inwardly inclined side walls [(6)] to facilitate entry and fitting of the ground engaging portion of another marker [(1)].
4. (Currently amended) A golf tee marker [(1)] according to claim 1, further comprising a fixed or detachable flange [(7)] disposed beneath the body [(3)] and parallel with an underside of the body [(3)] within the body's [(3)] perimeter to facilitate manipulation of the marker [(1)].
5. (Currently amended) A golf tee marker [(1)] according to claim 4, further comprising, beneath the body [(3)] a protective member to cushion impact and prevent direct contact between the bodies [(3)] of the markers [(1)] upon stacking.
6. (Currently amended) A golf tee marker [(1)] according to claim 1, wherein the drain hole [(5)] runs from the bottom of the well [(4)] to a periphery on the underside of the body [(3)].

7. (Currently amended) A golf tee marker [(1)] according to claim 6, wherein an exit of the drain hole [(5)] is positioned such that, when markers [(1)] are vertically stacked, liquid exiting the drain hole [(5)] will not enter into the marker [(1)] below.

8. (Currently amended) A golf tee marker [(1)] comprising:
a body [(3)] surmounting at least one spike [(2)] for spiking into the ground and having a spike well [(4)] in an upper surface thereof for receiving therein a spike [(2)] or spikes [(2)] of another marker [(1)] for stacking in a column;
the spike well [(4)] having a drain hole [(5)] to avoid accumulation of liquid therein;
the spike well [(4)] having inwardly inclined side walls [(6)] to facilitate entry and fitting of a spike [(2)];
a removable or fixed flange [(7)] attached beneath, and parallel to, the underside of the body [(3)] and within the body's [(3)] perimeter, to assist placement of the marker; [(1).]
a resilient washer [(8)] disposed beneath the body [(3)] for inhibiting direct contact between the bodies [(3)] of stacked markers [(1)].

9. (Currently amended) A pickup and placement cylinder [(13)] for stackable golf tee markers [(1)] comprising:
an elongated cylindrical housing for housing markers [(1)] therein and having an opening at an end thereof for allowing ingress and egress of markers [(1)]; and
means to selectively gather and place the markers [(1)].

10. (Currently amended) A pickup and placement cylinder [(13)] for stackable golf tee markers [(1)] comprising:
a housing for housing markers [(1)] in a cavity formed by the housing and having a closed end and an opening at an opposite end thereof for allowing ingress and egress of the markers [(1)];

a gear [(19)] disposed at the closed end for rotating a plurality of gears [(21)] attached to a plurality of rods [(15)] running lengthwise of the housing and outside of the cavity;

a plurality of top and bottom catches ~~(16 and 17)~~ connected to each of the rods [(15)] for allowing selective entrance, exit and manipulation of the markers [(1)] by jutting in and out of the cavity, the bottom catches [(17)] being adjacent the cylinder opening and the top catches [(16)] being spaced therefrom a distance less than the height of a marker [(1)];

the catches having first, second and third positions, wherein in said first position, the bottom catches [(17)] are retracted to allow a marker [(1)] to enter and exit the cylinder and the top catches [(16)] jut out into the cylinder cavity to act as a stop for markers [(1)] having their undersides below the level of the top catches [(16)];

in said second position, the top catches [(16)] are retracted to allow a marker [(1)] to drop down which will be caught by the bottom catches [(17)] jut out; and

in said third position the bottom catches [(17)] jut out so as to be positioned between a flange and an underside of a marker [(1)] and bear down upon the flange, pushing the marker [(1)] into the ground.

11. (Currently amended) A pickup and placement cylinder [(13)] according to claim 10, further comprising a fourth position, said fourth position having both the top and bottom catches ~~(16 and 17)~~ retracted to allow the markers [(1)] to move freely in the cylinder [(13)].

12. (Currently amended) A pickup and placement cylinder [(13)] according to ~~any one of claims 9 to 11~~ claim 9, wherein the golf tee marker [(1)] comprises a body [(3)] surmounting a ground engaging portion and having in a top surface thereof a well [(4)] for receiving therein a ground engaging portion of another marker [(1)] for stacking markers [(1)] in a column, the well [(4)] having a drain hole [(5)] to avoid accumulation of liquid therein.

13. (Currently amended) A transport and storage tube [(29)] for stacking golf tee markers [(1)] comprising a cavity for holding stacked markers [(1)] therein, a handle [(30)] pivotably attached to an open upper end of the tube [(29)] for receiving markers [(1)] therein, the tube [(29)] having a closed end having a recess formed therein for receiving a spike [(2)] of a lowermost marker [(1)].

14. (Currently amended) A transport and storage tube [(29)] according to claim 13, wherein the golf tee marker [(1)] comprises a body [(3)] surmounting a ground engaging portion and having in a top surface thereof a well [(4)] for receiving therein a ground engaging portion of another marker [(1)] for stacking markers [(1)] in a column, the well [(4)] having a drain hole [(5)] to avoid accumulation of liquid therein.

15. (Currently amended) A transport and storage tube [(29)] according to claim 13 ~~or 14~~, wherein the closed end of the tube [(29)] has disposed therein an annular rubber cushion [(32)] and a bottom plug [(33)] with a hole for receiving the spike [(2)] of the lowermost marker [(1)].

16. (Currently amended) A transport and storage tube [(29)] according to ~~any one of claims 13 to 15~~ claim 13, wherein the number of stackable golf tee markers [(1)] contained within comprises a quantity sufficient for servicing the teeing area of a single golf hole.

17. (Currently amended) A transport and storage tube [(29)] according to ~~any one of claims 13 to 16~~ claim 13, wherein the upper end has disposed thereon the hole number or other indica.

18. (Currently amended) The use of the transport and storage tubes [(29)] according to ~~any one of claims 13 to 17~~ claim 13, for the storage, transport, pickup or distribution of stackable golf tee markers [(1)].

19. (Currently amended) A golf course vehicle attachment for pickup and placement of golf tee markers [(1)] comprising a three-dimensionally movable arm with first and second ends pivotably connected at the first end to a base of the vehicle attachment; means for holding a pickup and placement cylinder [(13)] connected to the second end of the moveable arm and means for selectively manipulating the golf tee markers [(1)] within the pickup and placement cylinder [(13)].

20. (Currently amended) A golf course vehicle attachment according to claim 19, wherein the golf tee markers [(1)] comprises a body [(3)] surmounting a ground engaging portion and having in a top surface thereof a well [(4)] for receiving therein a ground engaging portion of another marker [(1)] for stacking markers [(1)] in a column, the well [(4)] having a drain hole [(5)] to avoid accumulation of liquid therein.

21. (Currently amended) A golf course vehicle attachment according to claim 19 ~~or 20~~, wherein the three-dimensionally movable arm is controlled by telescoping hydraulic cylinders.

22. (Currently amended) A golf course vehicle attachment according to ~~any one of claims 19 to 21~~ claim 19, wherein the three-dimensionally moveable arm is attached to a hydraulic system of the vehicle.

23. (Original) A golf course vehicle attachment according to claim 22, wherein the hydraulic system is controlled by directional control valves on a dashboard of the vehicle or on the attachment itself.

24. (Currently amended) A golf course vehicle attachment according to claim 22 ~~or 23~~, wherein hydraulic cylinders of the hydraulic system are made of standard stock with a minimum of 44 in. stroke.

25. (Currently amended) A cabinet for storing the transport and storage tubes, the cabinet having compartments for receiving the transport and storage tubes [(29)],

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wherein the cabinet may be mounted on wheels and towed behind a vehicle or handled with a forklift, sling or the like.